



APD NEWS

Public Information Office: (512) 974-5017

715 E. 8th St. Austin, Texas 78701

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Public Information Office, 974-5017

APD Gang Unit, FBI, TDCJ end two year Federal drug trafficking Investigation

On Wednesday, June 3, 2009 the Austin Violent Gang/Organized Crime Task Force, Safe Streets, will host a news conference at 2 p.m. at APD Headquarters to discuss the end of an investigation into a wide reaching cocaine conspiracy. Safe Streets is comprised of the Austin Police Department's Gang Unit, Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice-Office of the Inspector General. This was one of the most successful Safe Street Task Force investigations in the nation for the year 2008.

The investigation began in 2006 due to an increase in gang and drug activity in various Austin neighborhoods. The activity included increases in assaults, property crimes, weapons trafficking, home invasion robberies and other violence commonly connected to drug trafficking. The activity was due in large part to an increase in the availability of large quantities of cocaine for street level distribution.

The main cocaine suppliers in the Austin area were Duane Hosea, Jr., Warrior Fennell, Sky McClure, and Timothy Jackson.

The Austin suppliers were getting cocaine from a Honduran cocaine distribution organization operating in the Austin area. The Honduran group, headed by Victor Enrique Amador Rodriguez, was directly linked to Mexican Drug Trafficking Organizations. During one of the seizures, the APD Gang Unit seized 22 kilos of cocaine, and over \$500,000.00 in US currency, the largest seizure of cocaine at one time in APD History.

On May 29, 2009 the last of 28 defendants were sentenced in U.S. District Court in Austin, Texas ending the two year federal investigation.

Along with the APD Gang Unit, FBI and TDCJ the following agencies assisted in the investigation: The Texas Department of Public Safety, Pflugerville Police Department, Round Rock Police Department, Copperas Cove Police Department, Cameron Police Department, Travis County Sheriff's Office, Hutto Police Department, Taylor Police Department and the Travis County District Attorney's Office.



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The following subjects pleaded guilty and were sentenced in the Western District United States Court:

Duane Hosea – 27 years
Michael Hosea – 10 years
Ronald Sloan – 10 years
Marlon Battles – 5 years and 3 months
Jose Aviles – 16 years
Tony Brown – 12 years and 7 months
Patrick Porter – 15 years
Sherrod Whitley – 10 years
George Walker – 6 years and 6 months
Karry Collins – 6 years and 8 months
Marcus Dupree – 5 years 10 months
Robert Taylor – 3 years and 6 months
Kenneth Peoples – 7 years and 6 months
Jarod Mason – 5 years
Crisoforo Llanas – 7 years and 6 months
Jose Llanas – 9 years
Sky McClore – 14 years
Warrior Fennell – 14 years
Timothy Jackson – 16 years and 8 months
Jessie Clinton – 13 years and 4 months
Bobby Cleveland – 6 years and 8 months
Victor Amador – 16 years

Media Advisory: APD, FBI, TDCJ-Office of the Inspector General, Oliver Bell the Chairman of the Board of the Department of Criminal Justice (appointed by the Governor) and Federal Prosecutor Elizabeth Cottingham will be available for interview at 2 p.m. at APD Headquarters. Please call APD-PIO if you plan to attend.

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